- State Governments may evolve their own path of reforms to suit their specific conditions.
- Only commercially viable distribution can sustain and attract the investments required in the sector.
- Public sector investment in the Centre as well as in the States may be stepped up to ensure that in the 10th Plan the country is free of power shortages. This is critical for the Indian economy in the new globalised environment.
- An effective programme for conserving energy through energy efficient lighting, pump sets and other equipment needs to be implemented with urgency.
- Power sector is in a critical situation and reforms need to be undertaken to achieve the above objectives. Power sector reforms to be depoliticised in order to facilitate their speedy implementation.

Setting up Tribunal to settle Inter-State Power Disputes

3283. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMED KHAN (DURRU): Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Rajasthan has suggested for setting up Tribunal to settle inter-State disputes for sharing of hydro-electric power which often take too long to be settled to the detriment of the States concerned and the country as a whole;

(b) if so, which are the hydro-power projects disputes in question concerning the State of Rajasthan and other States in the North; and

(c) at what stage they stand at present indicating the steps so far taken by Government to settle?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) and (b) The Governments of Rajasthan and other Northern States like Haryana have been claiming a share in the power generated by, *inter-alia*, the following hydro-electric projects:—

1. Anandpur Sahib
2. Mukerian

3. Thein Dam (Ranjit Sagar)

4. Upper Bari Doab Canal (UBDC) Stage-II

5. Shahpurkandi

In an agreement signed between the Chief Ministers of Rajasthan, Haryana and Governor of Punjab and Government of India on 10.05.1984 regarding the supply of cooling water for Roper Thermal Power Station, it had *inter-alia* been decided to make a reference to the Supreme Court on the claims of Haryana and Rajasthan to a share in the power generated by the above mentioned five projects.

(c) The reference to the Supreme Court has not been made. The subject was discussed in the meetings of the Northern Zonal Council held in October, 1997 and February, 1999. An official level preparatory meeting for a meeting of the Chief Ministers has been held thereafter.

Mega power projects of NTPC in Rajasthan

3284. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the mega power projects of NTPC in progress for increasing power production in Rajasthan;

(b) when are they scheduled to be completed; and

(c) how are they being financed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) has no mega power project, in progress, at present in Rajasthan.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Requirement, availability and shortage of power in country

3285. SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the total requirement, availability and shortage of power as on 31st January, 2002 in the country, State-wise;

(b) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government during the 10th Five Year Plan to meet these shortages;